

APPENDIX A: INDIANA ENVIROMENTAL INFORMATION

Background

The State of Indiana has approximately 6.5 million residents and a labor force of 3.1 million according to the US Census Bureau and Indiana's Kelly School of Business. Nearly forty percent of Indiana's residents are older adults (ages 45-64) or senior citizens over age 65. The median household income in Indiana is approximately \$48,000. The poverty rate in Indiana is around 13 percent and nearly 18 percent of children under the age of 18 live in poverty. Over 730,000 residents receive Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program.¹

Education

Approximately 82 percent of residents have attained a High School diploma or higher; only 19.4 percent of residents have attained a bachelor's degree or higher.² The state is promoting higher education as a strategy to improve economic outcomes. According to the Indiana Institute for Working Families, Indiana must increase the number of Hoosiers with postsecondary credentials for Indiana to recover from the economic downturn, remain competitive in a global economy, and attract high-wage jobs to the State. It is estimated there are nearly one million Hoosiers who lack the basic educational skills necessary to become gainfully employed or advance to better paying jobs. In Indiana, over 650,000 Hoosier adults 18-64 years old have a high school diploma, no postsecondary education, and earn less than a self-sufficient wage – below 200 percent of the Federal Poverty Guidelines (\$35,200 a year for a family of three in 2008).³ For individuals with disabilities, the percentage with a high school diploma was estimated at 37.4 percent; with some college or associate degree was 28.4 percent; and with a bachelor's degree 9.9 percent. Therefore an important part of the MIG Strategic Plan must be to increase the opportunities for people to become better trained and more educated.

Worker Statistics

There are approximately 3.1 million workers in the labor force in Indiana. Indiana has historically been a manufacturing state known for an economy based on steel and auto-related industries. The national recession, beginning in late 2007, severely impacted Indiana as the demand for manufacturing and auto-related products collapsed. Factories have shed 110,000 workers since December 2007, when the recession began. An additional 140,000 workers have been let go in other sectors of the Indiana economy.⁴

¹ STATS Indiana is the statistical data utility for the State of Indiana, developed and maintained since 1985 by the Indiana Business Research Center at Indiana University's Kelley School of Business. Support is or has been provided by the State of Indiana and the Lilly Endowment, the Indiana Department of Workforce Development and Indiana University. <http://www.stats.indiana.edu/>

² STATS Indiana is the statistical data utility for the State of Indiana, developed and maintained since 1985 by the Indiana Business Research Center at Indiana University's Kelley School of Business.

³ Institute for Working Families, "Investing in Indiana's Adult Workers 2009". Downloaded March 23, 2010 from: <http://www.google.com/search?q=Indiana+Workforce+18-64&rls=com.microsoft:en-us&ie=UTF-8&oe=UTF-8&startIndex=&startPage=1>).

⁴ Ibid

According to the May 2010 Indiana Employment Report, Indiana continues to experience modest growth in private sector jobs, growing by 2.1 percent with growth in the following employment categories: Professional and Business Services, Private Education and Health Services and Manufacturing. Since the end of calendar year 2009, Indiana has seen growth of over 47,900 new jobs. While unemployment hovers at around 10 percent, the state has seen a 32 percent decline in unemployment claims over the past year.⁵

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Division of Occupational Employment Statistics, Indiana residents on an average earn lower hourly wages than residents of other states, with average hourly wages of \$18.16 and average annual wages of \$37,770, compared to U.S. average hourly wages of \$20.32 and annual wages of \$42,270. While wages remain lower in the state, Indiana continues to report the lowest unemployment rate of its neighboring states (Ohio, Michigan, Kentucky, and Illinois). This may be due partly to the aggressive efforts of the Indiana's Economic Development Corporation (IEDC), a public-private partnership formed in 2005 by Indiana's Governor Mitchell Daniels. This corporation replaced Indiana's former Department of Commerce and focuses on growing existing business and attracting new business to the state.

The IEDC focuses its efforts on growing and retaining businesses in Indiana and attracting new business to the State of Indiana. The IEDC is focused exclusively on economic development and has incorporated all state entities with economic development responsibilities into its organizational structure. With its new structure and improved tool-kit resulting from a successful legislative effort undertaken by the Governor and the Indiana General Assembly, the IEDC focuses on making Indiana competitive in the 21st Century economy. Regional economic development corporations and local corporations have been formed in to spur economic growth in all areas of the state. Since the development of IEDC, the agency has worked with more than 800 companies to grow or expand their operations in Indiana, and efforts continue to increase the average wage of workers \$20.16 per hour.⁶

Employment and Disability

2009 Social Security Administration data indicates there are over 175,000 beneficiaries receiving Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) benefits; over 75,200 individuals aged 18-64 who are recipients of Supplemental Security Income (SSI); with concurrent beneficiaries receiving SSDI/SSI of over 35,600 in 2009.⁷ The 2008 Indiana Disability Status Report, published by Cornell University indicates the percent of the population with a disability ages 16-64, is over 18 percent. The employment rate of working aged people with disabilities (ages 21-64) was 39.8 percent compared to 80.6 percent of employment rate for working-aged people without disabilities. The percentages of disability for working-age people by race are estimated at 11.3% among Caucasian; 14.5% among African Americans; 4.8% among Asians; 6.7% among Hispanic/Latino; 28.3% among Native Americans; and 13.8% among persons of other races.⁸

⁵ May Indiana Employment Report, Department of Workforce Development. Downloaded June 30,2010 from http://www.in.gov/portal/news_events/54958.htm.

⁶ Indiana Economic Development Corporation, "2009 Annual Report", <http://www.in.gov/iedc/about.htm>, (23 March 2010).

⁷ Social Security Administration Congressional Statistics, December 2009. Office of Program Development and Research & Office of Research and Evaluation Statistics.

⁸ Erickson, W. Lee, C., & von Schrader, S. (2010). 2008 Disability Status Report: Indiana. Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Disability Demographics and Statistics.

While the annual median earnings of working-age individuals with disabilities is reported to be \$33,600, a staggering 25.5 percent of working-age people with disabilities in Indiana remain in poverty. The United States Census Bureau reports the average earnings for employed people with disabilities to be approximately \$11,875 annually with males most likely earning twice the average annual earnings than females.⁹

The economic environment in Indiana has paralleled the national economic environment suffering a severe economic recession and significant jobs losses in 2008-2009. The results of the economic slowdown were a significant reduction in state tax revenues. This, not surprisingly, led to serious cuts to state-funded programs and services for people with disabilities such as job training programs for individuals who work with people with disabilities, the number of follow-along dollars for supported employment, a reduction in Medicaid waiver-based community services, and a decrease in community mental health program supports for individuals with psychiatric disabilities. These issues compound the barriers people with disabilities face when looking for work. The Office of Disability Employment Policy studied barriers to employment and indicated that more than half of the non-working adults with disabilities who were studied encountered difficulties. The most frequently cited reasons for being discouraged from looking for work were:

- No appropriate jobs available-52%
- Family responsibilities-34%
- Lack of transportation-29%
- No appropriate information about jobs-23%
- Inadequate training-21.6%
- Fear of losing health insurance or Medicaid-20.1%
- Discouraged from working by family and friends-14%¹⁰

⁹ Census 2000, http://factfinder.census.gov/servlet/DTable?_bm=y&-state=dt&-context=dt&-ds_name=ACS_2006_EST_G00_&-mt_name=ACS_2006_EST_G2000_B18001&-tree_id=306&-redoLog=false&-caller=geoselect&-geo_id=04000US18&-search_results=01000US&-format=&-lang=en, (23 March 2010).

¹⁰ U.S. Department of Labor, Office of Employment and Disability Policy, <http://www.dol.gov/odep/archives/ek01/stats.htm>, (16 March 2010).